

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. ROC920010345US1
MPS Ref. No.: IBMK10345

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated April 7, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on July 7, 2005. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Claims 1-2, 4-30 remain pending following entry of this response. Claim 3 has been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 4, 13, 21, 24, and 29 have been amended. Applicants submit that the amendments do not introduce new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 21 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Provinse* (U.S. Patent Application 2002/0026416). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claim. *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

Provinse discloses an account reconciliation system for reconciliation of centrally billed accounts in the travel industry (Abstract). The account reconciliation system includes one or more databases which may be organized in a suitable manner including data tables or lookup tables. Association of certain data may be accomplished through any data association techniques, such as a database search, a database merge, GREP, AGREP, SQL and/or the like (Paragraph 0032).

Regarding claims 1 and 21, *Provinse* does not disclose "each and every element as set forth in the claim". For example, *Provinse* does not disclose accessing each of the respective associated log files, wherein at least two of the associated logs files are

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of different formats, and for each new log entry recorded in the respective associated log file being accessed, determining whether the new log entry comprises one or more required fields using mapping rules that describe a location and format of at least the one or more required fields in the respective associated log file, as recited in claims 1 and 21. Therefore, claims 1 and 21 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Regarding claim 29, *Provinse* does not disclose "each and every element as set forth in the claim". For example, *Provinse* does not teach a database maintenance program for managing a process of a plurality of transactions through two or more applications in a business transaction environment, each application having at least one associated log file, wherein at least two of the associated files are of different formats, and for each new log entry recorded in the respective associated log files being accessed, determining whether the new log entry comprises one or more required fields using mapping rules that describe a location and format of at least the one or more required fields in the respective associated log file, as recited in claim 29. Therefore, claim 29 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 10-14 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Provinse* in view of *Boothby* (U.S. Patent 5,943,676).

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As discussed above, Applicants believe claims 1 and 21 are in condition for allowance. Claims 2, 10-14 and 23 depend from claims 1 and 21 respectively. Therefore, Applicants also believe claims 2, 10-14 and 23 are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-6, 9, 22, 26 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Provinse* in view of *Sass* (U.S. Patent 5,966,717).

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As discussed above, Applicants believe claims 1, 21 and 29 are in condition for allowance. Claims 4-6, 9, 22, 26 and 30

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depend from claims 1, 21 and 29 respectively. Therefore, Applicants also believe claims 4-6, 9, 22, 26 and 30 are in condition for allowance. Claim 3 has been cancelled. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, in rejecting claims 3 and 4, the Examiner takes the position that *Sass* teaches "determining whether the new log entry comprises the one or more required fields using a set of mapping rules providing the format and the location of the information in the new log entry". Applicant respectfully disagree. In fact, *Sass* teaches a method for importing data from an import database to a target database. The imported data are mapped into corresponding target headers/target data fields by a visually intuitive manner such as dragging and dropping or highlighting an item (column 8, lines 21-32). *Sass* does not teach determining whether the new log entry comprises one or more required fields using mapping rules that describe a location and format of at least the one or more required fields in the respective associated log fields, as recited in claim 1. Further, *Sass* does not teach extracting information from the new log entry using the mapping rules providing the format and the location of the information in the new log entry, as recited in claim 4. Therefore, the combination of *Provinse* and *Sass* does not teach, show or suggest "determining whether the new log entry comprises the one or more required fields using the mapping rules providing the format and the location of the information in the new log entry".

Claims 17-20, 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Provinse* in view of *Holenstein et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,662,196, hereinafter *Holenstein*).

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As discussed above, Applicants believe claims 1 and 21 are in condition for allowance. Claims 17-20, 24, and 25 depend from claims 1 and 21 respectively. Therefore, Applicants also believe claims 17-20, 24, and 25 are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 7, 8, 27 and 28 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Provinse-Sass* as applied to claims 3-6, 9, 22, 26, 30 above, and further in view of *Boothby*.

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Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As discussed above, Applicants believe claims 1 and 21 are in condition for allowance. Claims 7, 8, 27 and 28 depend from claims 1 and 21 respectively. Therefore, Applicants also believe claims 7, 8, 27 and 28 are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Provinse-Boothby* as applied to claims 2, 10-14, and 23 above, and further in view of *Holenstein*.

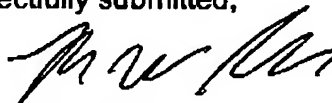
Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As discussed above, Applicants believe claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Claims 15 and 16 depend from claim 1. Therefore, Applicants also believe claims 15 and 16 are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicants' disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, Applicants believe that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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